

news release

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WASHINGTON -- U.S. Rep. C. W. Bill Young (R-FL), ranking minority member on the House Oversight and Evaluation Subcommittee on Intelligence, Wednesday expressed his disappointment over the leak of a controversial staff report which evaluated the U.S. intelligence performance in Central America.

"This is a self-serving staff report that has no other useful purpose except to provide ammunition to those who want to hamstring our intelligence agencies and to those who oppose U.S. policy in Central America," Young said. "A careful analysis will show the staff report to be extremely biased, containing overstatements, misstatements and subjective generalities."

The Florida congressman said he was apprehensive about the possibility of a misinterpretation of information included in the report and the resultant harm it would do to U.S. intelligence agencies, the State Department and our relationship with friendly Central American nations.

"The minority members of the committee are deeply concerned about the quality of the report and therefore opposed its public release," Young said.

Young said he was disappointed that in this case, the committee chose a public forum in meeting its oversight responsibilities, when other alternatives were available that would have been just as effective.